

# Module 5: National Guard/Reserve

# Module Objectives

## After this module, you should be able to:

- Explain Line of Duty Care for National Guard/Reserve members
- Identify who determines TRICARE eligibility for National Guard/Reserve members
- Explain how National Guard/Reserve members become eligible for TRICARE
- Describe when National Guard/Reserve members become eligible for the TRICARE Dental Program
- Indicate when National Guard/Reserve retirees become eligible for TRICARE



# Active Duty For Less Than 30 Days

- While on active duty orders for 30 days or less, National Guard/Reserve members are covered by their Service component for any injury, illness, or disease incurred or aggravated in the line of duty
  - This includes when they are traveling directly to or from the place where they perform their military duty, including weekend drill or unit training assembly
- Their family members are not eligible for TRICARE benefits



# Line of Duty (LOD) Determinations

- LOD determinations are used to document, establish, manage, and authorize civilian health care for eligible National Guard/Reserve members who are injured or become ill while on active duty
- The Military Medical Support Office (MMSO) is responsible for managing civilian health care for National Guard/Reserve members who are **NOT** in a Military Treatment Facility (MTF) Prime Service Area in the U.S.
- Documentation for LOD-related conditions must be provided to either the MTF or MMSO, as appropriate, to establish eligibility for care



# LOD Determinations

- Medical care may be rendered at a local MTF or a civilian medical facility if required
  - To receive care at the MTF, the National Guard/Reserve member's Command or medical unit should contact the MTF's patient administration office for assistance
  - If local MTF care is not available, the National Guard/Reserve member's Command or medical unit may request civilian medical care authorization through their individual Service processes



# TRICARE Eligibility

- When on federal orders to serve as active duty for more than 30 consecutive days, National Guard/Reserve members and their eligible family members have access to the same health care benefits as active duty service members and their family members
- The U.S. Uniformed Services National Guard/Reserve Components are:
  - Army National Guard
  - Army Reserve
  - Navy Reserve
  - Marine Corps Reserve
  - Air National Guard
  - Air Force Reserve
  - Coast Guard Reserve



- TRICARE eligibility questions can be addressed at the nearest Uniformed Services ID card issuing facility or by contacting a DEERS Support Office



# Delayed-Effective-Date Active Duty Orders

- When National Guard/Reserve members receive federal delayed-effective-date active duty orders to serve for **more than 30 consecutive days in support of a contingency**, they and their family members are eligible for TRICARE on the date the order was issued or 90 days prior to being called to active duty, whichever is later
- **The following scenario demonstrates how delayed-effective-date active duty orders affect TRICARE coverage:**
  - On January 1, the National Guard/Reserve member receives delayed-effective-date active duty orders for 60 consecutive days in support of a contingency operation, with a reporting date of April 2
  - On January 1, TRICARE coverage begins for the National Guard/ Reserve member and their eligible family members





# Mobilization and TRICARE Coverage

## Eligibility

- When activated under federal orders for more than 30 consecutive days, National Guard and Reserve members become eligible for TRICARE health coverage

## Enrollment

- National Guard/Reserve members on duty (in combatant theaters of operation) with existing or imbedded medical treatment and support services for healthcare are not required to enroll in Prime or Prime Remote
- All other activated Guard/Reserve members must enroll in TRICARE Prime or TRICARE Prime Remote, just like other active duty service members
- If mobilized to an overseas location, National Guard/Reserve members should follow directions given by their command as to whether to enroll in an overseas plan





# Additional Options Available to National Guard/Reserve Members

## **TRICARE Reserve Select (TRS)**

- Premium-based health plan available for purchase by qualified members of the National Guard and Reserve who are members of the Selected Reserve
- See the *TRICARE Reserve Select* module for additional information

## **Transitional Assistance Management Program (TAMP)**

- Provides 180 days of transitional health care coverage for certain members of the Uniformed Services that separated from active duty, and their eligible family members
- See the *Transitional Benefits* module for additional information

## **Continued Health Care Benefits Program (CHCBP)**

- Premium-based healthcare program that offers temporary transitional health coverage (up to 18 or 36 months) after military health care benefits end (including TAMP eligibility)
- See the *Transitional Benefits* module for additional information



# TRICARE Dental Program (TDP) for National Guard/Reserve Members

- Guard/Reserve members (both Individual Ready Reserves and Selected Reserves) who are **NOT** on active duty for more than 30 consecutive days and their eligible family members can participate in the voluntary, premium-based TRICARE Dental Program
- Eligibility is determined by the uniformed services and recorded in DEERS
- Sponsors and their eligible family members can enroll independently of each other
- When the Guard/Reserve member is called to active duty, they will get their dental care at the military dental facility
  - The TDP family premium will fall to the active duty family member rate



# National Guard/Reserve Retirees and TRICARE Prime

- National Guard/Reserve retirees and their families are not eligible for TRICARE coverage until the sponsor begins collecting retirement pay, typically at age 60
- Guard/Reserve retirees and their eligible family members can participate in TRICARE Standard, TRICARE Extra, or enroll in TRICARE Prime
- Guard/Reserve retirees and their family members are not eligible for TRICARE Prime Remote or TRICARE Prime for Active Duty Family Members
- Retirees and their families have an annual TRICARE Prime enrollment fee of \$230 for an individual or \$460 for a family of two or more



# **You've Completed Module 5: National Guard/Reserve**

## **You should now be able to:**

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- Explain how National Guard/Reserve members become eligible for TRICARE
- Describe when National Guard/Reserve members become eligible for the TRICARE Dental Program
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